

THE REMARKS

Claims 44-79 were pending prior to entering the amendments. Claims 45-47, 52, 53, 58, and 59 were elected for examination.

The Amendments

Claims 44, 51, 57, and 63-79 are cancelled as drawn to non-elected inventions.

Claim 45 is amended to recite “consisting of.” Claim 45 is further amended to be an independent claim by including the limitation of Claim 44.

Claims 47-50 are amended to clarify the meaning of the claims.

New Claims 80-82 are dependent claims of Claim 45 and are supported by FIG. 2-1, HT001(-2)ORF, SEQ ID NO: 118.

No new matter is introduced in any of the above amendments. The Examiner is requested to enter the amendment and re-consider the application.

Claim Objection

Claim 45 is objected to for making reference to an unelected invention.

Claim 45 is a linking claim. Once the elected species is allowable, the other non-elected species will be examined.

35 U.S.C. § 101 Rejection

Claims 45-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because Claims 45-47, as written, allegedly does not distinguish over naturally existing peptides.

Claim 45 is amended to insert “isolated,” which should overcome the rejection.

35 U.S.C. § 102(b) Rejection

Claims 45-47, 52, 53, 58, and 59 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Mayer, et al (JBC, 1992, 267(29): 20589-20593).

Mayer et al disclose a substrate of Ras-Cys-Thr-Ile-Leu for protein geranylgeranyltransferase. Mayer et al do not disclose a peptide having at least 15 amino acids comprising the substrate. Particularly, Mayer et al do not disclose a fragment peptide consisting

of a fragment of SEQ ID NO: 20 and having a length of at least 15 amino acids. Therefore, Mayer et al do not anticipate Claim 45 or its dependent Claims 46-47, 52, 53, 58, and 59.

35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph, Rejection

Claims 47, 53, and 59 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement.

By amending Claim 45 to recite “consisting of,” the §112, first paragraph rejection is overcome. Claims 47, 53, and 59, as amended, are fully supported by FIG. 2-2, TAF1b(-1), SEQ ID NO: 20.

Rejoinder

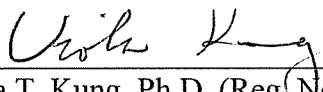
Once the linking Claim 45 is found allowable, Applicant respectfully request that the Examiner rejoin the linked inventions Groups III-V (Claims 48-50, 54-56 and 60-62) and new Claims 80-82.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the application is now in good and proper condition for allowance. Early notification of allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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